

Pat Robertson: Well, she was the general counsel for this organization whose purpose right now is to rid religion from the public square. That's they are announced. We've had Nadine Strasser down here to our university in a debate. She's a very pleasant lady but that's what she said was her avowed goal, to take all religion from the public square. That's their initiative and Justice Ginsburg served as their general counsel, so . . .

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) Let's turn to some broader issues. You spoke at the beginning of the year on "The 700 Club" and said that you had been praying and God had given you some predictions about President Bush's second term. Let me show you that.

Pat Robertson: What I heard was that Bush is now positioned to have victory after victory. He'll have Social Security reform passed, that he'll have tax reform passed, that he'll have conservative judges on the courts.

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) So that's what you heard on January 3rd. Do you think you might have misinterpreted?

Pat Robertson: No, I think he's got a winning hand on Social Security, George, despite what Nancy Pelosi says. The Social Security, as you know is going into deficit in 2018. It's not 2042 or '52. What they've been doing is taking a surplus of the money that we all pay into Social Security and they've used it to fund the Federal deficit and there is no trust fund. That's an illusion and it's going into deficit. There won't be any more excess for the Federal Government in 2018. We're hitting into a crisis mode and I think the president as far as younger workers concerned, he has a winning hand, and I think the Democrats are holding on to something that Franklin Delano Roosevelt did in the '30s and they look like a bunch of mossbacks. It is time they, they, they, they get some new ideas. You said it right when you were interviewing her.

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) You know reverend Robertson, the God you describe is taking a very active direct role in our lives. One of the earlier clips we showed, said, you had Him saying I am removing justices from the supreme court and I'm just wondering why does a God who is so involved in our daily life, so directly involved allow something like a tsunami to kill several hundred thousand people in Asia?

Pat Robertson: I don't think He reverses the laws of nature. The reason for that tsunami was the shifting of tectonic plates in the Indian Ocean. I don't think He changes the magma in volcanoes and I don't think He changes the wind currents to bring about hurricanes, so I don't attribute that to God or His lack or otherwise but in terms of human affairs I do think he answers prayer and I think there have been literally millions of people praying for a change in the supreme court. The people of faith in this country feel they're on a tyranny and they see their liberties taken away from them and they've been beseeching God, fasting and praying for years, so I think he hears and answers their prayers.

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) You know, let's look ahead to 2008. The jockeying has already begun and of all the candidates looking for the nomination on the Republican side, which one do you believe is best positioned to get the support of religious conservatives like you?

Pat Robertson: You know, it's really hard to pick a winner right now. There's an outstanding Senator from Kansas who I think would be looking for it. He certainly represents the . . .

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) Sam Brownback?

Pat Robertson: Brownback, he's a super guy. I think George Allen from Virginia was a distinguished governor, he's a distinguished senator and head of the senatorial campaign committee and won some significant victories. He is a very attractive guy and would make a tremendous president. So there are a couple. I don't know who else is out there jockeying, I'm sure Karl Rove has a candidate that he hasn't told us about.

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) You didn't mention Bill Frist. I'm surprised about that.

Pat Robertson: Uh, Bill is a wonderfully compassionate human being. He is a humanitarian. He goes on medical missions. He is a delightful person. I just don't see him as a future president. And I think he said he didn't want to run for president. Maybe I'm putting words in his mouth.

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) I think he's looking at it. Let me ask you one other question on that and then I'll let you go.

Pat Robertson: Okay.

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) If the party chooses a moderate like John McCain or Rudy Giuliani, do you think religious conservatives will split off and form a third party movement?

Pat Robertson: I don't think so. Rudy is a very good friend of mine and I think he did a super job running the City of New York and I think he'd make a good president. I like him a lot, although he doesn't share all of my particular points of view on social issues. He's a very dedicated Catholic and he is a great guy. McCain I'd vote against under any circumstance.

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) Reverend Robertson, thank you very much.

Pat Robertson: Okay, thank you.

George Stephanopoulos: (Off Camera) The roundtable is next. George will, Terry Moran, and Linda Douglass weigh in on the president's first 100 days, and in "The Funnies" it's Laura's turn.

Laura Bush, First Lady: I was a librarian who spent 12 hours a day in the library, yet somehow I met George.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this is a strident voice among some in this country who came out and said he believed that the real threat to America was not terrorism but men and women wearing judicial robes. He thought that was a much greater threat. That gives you an idea of the extreme rhetoric. We cannot let this happen. Whether the Democrats are in control or out of control, whether Republicans control today or tomorrow is secondary. We all swear to uphold the Constitution.

I will yield the floor to my colleague from New Jersey at this point. I hope those following this debate will consider the constitutional issues at stake.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from New Jersey is recognized.

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I also believe we must defend the independence of the judiciary, and I think the comments of both the Senator from Illinois and the Senator from New York regarding this subject are ones that need to be understood and need to be brought forward on the floor as we consider the potential for what I believe is changing the basic nature of how our courts are put together and their independence.

GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, this morning I rise to speak about the tragedy and human crisis—yes, the genocide—in Darfur, Sudan, and the failure of our Nation to do everything we can do to stop the killing and save the lives of the well over 2 million people who are displaced in Darfur. Just a few weeks ago on the Senate floor, we passed the Darfur Accountability Act offered by Senator BROWNBACK and myself, an amendment to the supplemental appropriations bill which we will be voting on, and I will be supporting today, or in the next several days as it comes out of conference.

The Darfur Accountability Act provided the tools and sets out the policies needed to confront this grave humanitarian crisis that exists in the Sudan. It also had broad bipartisan support and 30 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle.

It passed by unanimous consent on the floor of the Senate. Yet, inexplicably, the amendment was stripped from the bill in conference—all of it, including support for African Union forces, the call for a military no-fly zone, the extension of the arms embargo to the Government of Sudan, and the authority to freeze the assets and deny visas to those responsible for genocide and crimes against humanity. Even the Senate's statement that the atrocities in Sudan are genocide was removed.

Mr. President, I find it hard to comprehend how these policies, which hold the possibility of saving thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of lives, could be opposed by the House, the administration, or whoever. Sadly, the people of Darfur will be paying for the indifference and, in turn, we will be ignoring the values of the American people who hold us accountable for calling genocide what it is and pushing to stop it.

The contrast between our words and deeds seems to grow almost by the hour. Just today, in Georgia, President Bush stated:

We are living in historic times when freedom is advancing, from the Black Sea to the Caspian, and to the Persian Gulf and beyond.

I guess that is not happening in the Sudan. At the same time we are challenging autocrats around the world, it seems we are seeking accommodation with what I consider a barbarous government in Sudan.

At the same time we are saying we are standing with those who stand for freedom, we are turning our backs on the human rights of the people of Darfur. It is not enough to say that because the Sudanese Government shows some signs of cooperation on some fronts, this justifies our turning our backs on that Government's criminal attacks on their own people. It sounds almost like a speech I heard over the weekend. How can we ignore our own values when it comes to Africa? Is not every human life of equal worth?

One of this generation's great moral voices, Elie Wiesel, understood that

our values are universal. Speaking on Darfur last year, he asked:

How can a citizen of a free country not pay attention? How can anyone, anywhere, not feel outraged? How can a person, whether religious or secular, not be moved by compassion? And above all, how can anyone who remembers remain silent?

Mr. President, I just returned from the region. Unfortunately, the Government of Sudan denied me the visa that I needed to visit the camps inside Sudan. Instead, I went to Chad, where there are about 200,000 displaced refugees from Darfur.

What do the Sudanese have to hide? Why would they prevent a U.S. Senator from visiting. In the camp I visited in Chad, I received reports of continued attacks on civilians, as well as a growing fear of an imminent humanitarian crisis afflicting the 2 million displaced Darfurians. But it is when monitors are denied access, when there are no reports, that the atrocities are always the most grave and can continue.

We need transparency. This is not about one Senator. The Sudanese have obstructed access by African Union monitors. Human rights advocates and journalists have been denied entry. Humanitarian organizations have been harassed and, when they actually get there, some have actually been killed.

We need to shine a light on this problem. I visited some of the victims last week in eastern Chad. Here is a picture of some of the folks in one of the camps. Hundreds of these men and women desperately want to go home. They were in Chad because of the brutal violence in their own country, brought on by the Sudanese Government. They were chased from their villages. None of them felt safe to return. None of them would return.

This sentiment matches what we hear in Darfur, where we were last fall. Hundreds of thousands of civilians were in these IDP camps, approaching 2 million. Meanwhile, the Darfur refugees in Chad are barely getting by. I can tell you that the conditions are difficult. U.N. agencies and humanitarian organizations are doing everything they can, a heroic job of getting assistance to these camps. But I have to tell you, there is a serious shortfall between a quality of life that is just sustainable and reality. The terrain in eastern Chad is dry, infertile and, frankly, the environment is bleak. It barely supports the Chadians who live in the area. There is not enough water and certainly limited amounts of food. It needs to change.

That is why we need to speak out and we have to be forceful. That is why one of the provisions in the Darfur Accountability Act I think is most important, and that is the appointment of a special envoy.

Mr. President, stopping genocide is a moral challenge that requires courage and resources. But it also requires attention every day—real diplomatic engagement to make sure we are moving the ball forward in this process. In

Chad, I met with President Deby and also with members of the joint commission—Chadians engaged in diplomatic negotiations between the Government of Sudan and the Darfur rebels. We met with the rebels themselves. People want peace. We met with people in the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Bringing these players together—not to mention the parties in the north-south agreement in Sudan, the EU, NATO, and U.N. Security Council members—is a full time job. It needs the attention of an individual to make sure that those negotiations don't go adrift. We need that attention now. It is critical. The Darfur Accountability Act asked for this, encouraged this, and it is not happening. It is not sufficient enough to have a one-time trip by the Deputy Secretary of State to Sudan to think that we are paying enough attention or putting on enough pressure. In fact, we don't have an ambassador in the Sudan. We don't have an official representative to the African Union. We need to be paying attention. That is why Senator BROWNBACK and myself offered the amendment to the supplemental. That is why we have asked for additional funding, some of which was included in the supplemental, and I am grateful for the fact that Senators DEWINE and BROWNBACK, DURBIN, LEAHY, and OBAMA were able to provide \$50 million more for the African Union. But some of the humanitarian assistance was pulled back for reasons allocated to other difficult places that also demand need.

It is essential if we are going to stop this killing, stop the genocide, that we react now, that we pay attention, that we do the things that will allow the African Union's deployment to be successful—only 2,200 people in an area the size of France. We need to have a minimum of 6,000, maybe as many as 10,000. That mission needs to be financed. The supplemental was where we could do much of this. Some of that we stepped back from.

Our values as a nation and our national security require us to speak up and confront these problems.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. All time in morning business has now expired.

Mr. CORZINE. I thank the Presiding Officer. I hope my colleagues will consider this legislation when we bring it back to the floor. It needs to be fought for.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND TSUNAMI RELIEF ACT, 2005—CONFERENCE REPORT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 1268, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1268), making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, to establish and rapidly implement regulations for State driver's license and identification document security standards, to prevent terrorists from abusing the asylum laws of the United States, to unify terrorism-related grounds for inadmissibility and removal, to ensure expeditious construction of the San Diego border fence, and for other purposes, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses this report, signed by a majority of conferees on the part of both Houses.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will proceed to the consideration of the conference report.

(The conference report is printed in the House proceedings of the RECORD of May 3, 2005.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SUNUNU). The Senator from Mississippi is recognized.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the Senate now has under consideration the conference report to accompany H.R. 1268, the fiscal year 2005 emergency supplemental appropriations bill. This bill was requested by the President to carry forward the spending and accounts of the Department of Defense, the Department of State, and other agencies and departments of the Government through the remainder of this fiscal year which will end on September 30.

The bill was passed in the Senate on April 21, and we began conference discussions with our colleagues from the other body on April 27. A bipartisan majority of the conferees reconciled differences between the two bills and reached agreement on the provisions of a conference report on Tuesday, May 3.

The House approved the conference report on May 5 by a rollcall vote of 368 to 58. The conference agreement provides a total of \$82.041 billion, slightly less than the President's request of \$82.042 billion. Almost \$76 billion in emergency supplemental appropriations is provided to the Department of Defense to cover the costs of continuing the operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Title II of the conference agreement provides \$4.128 billion for international programs and assistance for reconstruction and the war on terror. Title III provides \$1.184 billion for domestic programs in the war on terror. And title IV provides \$907 million in relief for the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster.